

Newton Abbot Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspectors,

1925.

H. B. MAPLETON, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Newton Abbot Rural District.

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PHYSICAL FEATURES.—The district presents two distinct features. The central portion is occupied by a low lying area of irregular shape, being 8-9 miles by 2-3 in its greatest dimensions, and drained by the River Teign and its tributaries. This was formerly the site of a lake belonging to the miocene geological period; and the soil is composed of beds of clay, quartzose sand—the washings from the surrounding hills—and lignite, which at one point at least attain a depth of over 500 feet. The working of this clay constitutes a special source of wealth and trade in the neighbourhood. This level area is bounded by hills of red breccia or sandstone (on the coast) green sand, shales, and limestone; to the westward by the igneous bosses of Dartmoor, which rise from the valley to an elevation of 1,500 at Rippon Tor, and culminate near the margin of the district in the mass of Hameldown, 1,750 feet above sea level. These constitute uplands, which with their wooded slopes, pure moor breezes, and abundance of water, are altogether faultless as far as natural endowments go. Thus the variety of climate is well marked; the warm and sheltered combes, luxuriant in foliage, which run down to the sea or the Teign Valley—as for instance Bishopsteignton, Coombe or Lustleigh—are at one end of the scale, whereas at the other lie Moretonhampstead, Manaton, and Ipplepen, on uplands of considerable elevation with lower barometric pressure.

OCCUPATION.—Dairy farming and agriculture constitute the chief means of livelihood in large portions of the district, which is within easy access of several populous urban communities; this includes market gardening, especially in the parish of West Dawlish. The clay workings in the Teign Valley, from which the raw material is shipped to all parts of the world, are an important and continually expanding industry. Potteries have long been established at Kingsteignton, Heathfield, Bovey Tracey, and Aller; and this trade affords occupation in the aggregate for several hundred workers, who live in the adjacent towns and villages.

Quarries for building and road making stone are numerous, chiefly limestone, granite, and diabase; the latter is in great demand for roads, the principal quarries being in the Teign Valley, near Trusham Station; concrete blocks for building purposes are also made here, and Teign Village, with 48 houses, is occupied entirely by the employees.

Some tin and copper mining is also carried on, especially at Hennock, and near Widecombe; micaceous iron to a limited extent is found in the neighbourhood of Lustleigh. These, however, are inconsiderable.

No special diseases have come under notice as the result of these various occupations.

The northern and woodland parts, as well as the coastline being attractive in situation and scenery, are residential to an increasing extent; hence lodging houses and hotels are numerous. Of late years houses of the bungalow type have been erected almost everywhere.

AREA and POPULATION.—The district has an acreage of 99,173, and the estimated population for 1925 is given by the Registrar General as 20,480, or 10 in excess of the previous year. Twenty-eight parishes are included, varying in density from the small towns of Bovey, Kingsteignton, Chudleigh and Moretonhampstead, to the purely rural and thinly inhabited areas of Manaton, Widecombe, and Woodland. The number of inhabited houses is now about 5,340, or 3.8 persons per house. I am unable to estimate separate occupiers.

RATEABLE VALUE of the district for the year ending March 31st, 1925: Agricultural land, £74,104; buildings, £97,252; giving a total of £171,356.

A penny rate represents a sum of £470.

BALANCE OF LOANS OUTSTANDING at the same date amounted to £31,402 6s. 1d. on water supplies; £3,993 10s. 0d. on sewerage; and £86,345 18s. 0d. on housing—in all £121,741 14s. 1d.

OUTDOOR RELIEF during the whole year 1925 was given to the extent of £4,074 13s. 0d., as compared with £3,638 4s. 8d. in 1924. This is practically 4s. per head of the population.

RAINFALL in 1925, though considerably less than that registered in the previous abnormal year, was still well above the average—to the amount of nearly 6 inches; water supplies were, therefore, sustained in plenty throughout the year. The greatest fall took place in January, February, and December; while March and June were dry months. Records in the district were as follows: Haldon (Thorns),

44.11 inches; Hennock, 43.97; Ilsington, 58.91; (Moreton Rectory), 48.08; and Moreton (Blackingstone), 43.83.

SANITARY STAFF includes Medical Officer of Health (part time), and two Sanitary Inspectors (both whole time). They are qualified by the Sanitary Institute examination, and one is also a qualified Meat Inspector. Besides these there are Water Bailiffs in all the principal towns and villages. Part of the salaries of the M.O.H. and the Sanitary Inspectors are paid by the County Council.

VITAL STATISTICS.—The number of deaths registered in the District was 255, but to these must be added 18 from the Union House, 7 from the Hospital (Newton Urban District); also 5 from County Mental Hospitals, and 21 other transferable deaths, which occurred in different outside localities. On the other hand, 10 deaths among visitors are deducted. This gives a nett total of 296 (124 in males, and 172 in females), resulting in a rate of 14.5 per 1,000, as compared with 13.0 in the preceding year, and a decennial average of 13.5.

The above rate, however, when corrected by the standardizing factor (given by the Registrar General) of .760, is reduced to 11.02 per 1,000.

Eighty-five deaths were registered in the first quarter, 84 in the second, 63 in the third, and 64 in the fourth, giving rates per 1,000 per annum of 16.6, 16.4, 12.3, and 12.5 respectively. Of the total deaths 29, or 9.8 per cent., were under one year of age, and 154 or 52.0 per cent. over 65 years, as compared with 6.7, and 54.7 in 1924; the average age at death worked out at 55.7 years.

The infant mortality, or deaths under one year, to 1,000 births, was 82, as against 55 in the previous year, and an average of 64 for the years 1915-1924.

Of these deaths 5 were due to measles and whooping cough; influenza, 1; nervous diseases, 2; respiratory diseases, 9; circulatory diseases, 1; natural causes, 2; congenital debility and premature birth, 8; and accident, 1. Five were in illegitimate children.

There were no fatalities from puerperal sepsis, or from other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition.

The births of 172 boys and 183 girls give a general rate of 17.3 per 1,000, which is slightly higher than that of the previous year (16.0), and nearly coincides with the decennial mean of 17.1.

Seventy-nine births were registered in the first quarter, 91 in the second, 102 in the third, and 83 in the fourth, giving

COMPARATIVE TABLE.—NEWTON RURAL

	1925		Average of years 1915-1924).	
DEATHS FROM.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
Small Pox	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	·05	·9	·05
Scarlet Fever	1	·05	·7	·04
Whooping Cough	6	·29	2·0	·11
Typhoid Fever, &c.	1	·05	·1	·01
Diphtheria	—	—	1·6	·09
Diarrhoea (Under 2 years)	—	—	1·3	4·0*
Influenza	9	·44	12	·65
Phthisis	17	·83	17·5	·94
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	·29	5	·27
Respiratory Diseases	52	2·54	34	1·84
Circulatory Diseases	57	2·78	52	2·81
Cancer	41	2·00	25	1·35
Violence	6	·29	7	·38
Total Deaths	296	14·5	250	13·5
Standardizing Factor.	·760	11·0	—	—
Population (Estimated).	20480		18513	
Births	355	17·3	327	17·1
Deaths under 1 year	29	82*	21	64*
„ between 1 & 5 years	7	—	9	—
„ over 65 years	154	—	123	—
Average age at Death	55·7	—	54·5	—
TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.				
In Union House & County				
Asylum	23	—	24	—
Other Inward Transfers	28	—	20	—
Outward Transfers	10	—	11	—

* Per 1,000 Births.

ing rates per 1,000 per annum of 15.4, 17.7, 19.9 and 16.2 respectively. Seventeen were illegitimate.

The natural increase, or excess of births over deaths, was 59, or about 3 per 1,000 of the population.

There were no deaths from diarrhoea in children under 2 years; the average per 1,000 births for the previous decade was 4.0.

The above figures are hardly so favourable as those of late years; the general death rate has somewhat advanced, and zymotic disease, in the shape of whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, and enteric fever was responsible for 9 fatalities. Further the infant mortality (in consequence to some extent of measles and whooping cough) is unusually high, and the proportion of infant deaths to the total has increased. On the other hand, the birth rate shews some sign of reaction, and is rather higher.

Under other chief headings deaths from the tubercular group have slightly increased (23, as compared with 20 in the previous year), while those from cancer have again risen (and by nearly 50 per cent.) from 28 to 41; the death rate from the latter (2.0) is now more than double that from phthisis (.83). Mortality from respiratory diseases shows a considerable increase (52 as against 41), and that from disorders of the circulation has also advanced from 51 to 57. Deaths from violence (6), were again fewer (8 in 1924).

The figures for the Sub-Registration Districts work out as follows:—

NEWTON RURAL.—Death rate, 14.7; birth rate, 19.5; infantile mortality, 75; average age at death, 53.7 years.

CHUDLEIGH.—Death rate, 13.8; birth rate, 16.7; infantile mortality, 98; average age at death, 53.1.

ASHBURTON RURAL.—Death rate, 14.2; birth rate, 15.3; infantile mortality, 98; average age at death, 54.9.

MORETON.—Death rate, 18.7; birth rate, 20.7; infantile mortality, 82; average age at death, 56.2.

SEA BORDER.—Death rate, 12.1; birth rate, 14.6; infantile mortality, 52; average age at death, 63.5.

No parish was without fatality; in five, however, only single deaths were registered—Buckland (death rate 14.7); Cockington (3.2); Manaton (2.5); Teigngrace (6.2); and Trusham (6.4). Besides these Coombe (8.5), Dawlish West (6.5), Denbury (8.9), Hennock (8.4), and Widecombe (8.8), showed death rates of under 10 per 1,000. Three parishes yielded rates of over 20—Ideford 26.1, Lustleigh 28.6, North Bovey 28.6. In all these, however, the

decennial mean rate was very much lower (15.7, 11.5, and 11.5 respectively).

Of the six small urban centres Bovey Tracey and Kingskerswell (13.4 each), take the lead. Bishopsteignton (66 years), Kingskerswell (61.8), and Bovey (61.2) showed the highest average age at death. Taking the mean rate for the previous ten years, Bishopsteignton (11.8), and Bovey (12.9) yield the best figures.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.—There were 9 deaths due to the ordinary zymotic diseases: Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Measles, 1 each; Whooping Cough, 6.

Cases of notifiable disease were 108 in number: these included 2 Diphtheria, 43 Scarlet Fever, 3 Typhoid Fever, 20 Pneumonia, 7 Erysipelas, 2 Encephalitis Lethargica, 1 Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and 30 Tuberculosis.

MEASLES was prevalent in various parts of the District during the first quarter of the year, especially at Widecombe (January), Manaton (February), Chudleigh (March), Hennock and Moreton (April). There was one fatality at the latter place.

WHOOPING COUGH was widely spread for the first six months, i.e., Liverton (January), Kingsteignton and Ipplepen (February), Bovey and Chudleigh Knighton (March), Lustleigh and Moreton (April), Heathfield and Chudleigh (May), Hennock (June). Deaths occurred at Bovey (2), Moreton (2), Ilsington and Kingsteignton (1 each). The Kingsteignton National Infant School was closed for a month.

DIPHTHERIA.—Two attacks were reported, one at Moreton in July and one at Bishopsteignton in September. The former was of severe type, associated with insanitary surroundings, and ended fatally in a few days: the other—removed to hospital—made a good recovery. Both were girls of 3 and 5 years respectively.

Examination of swabs is undertaken by the County Council and antitoxin is supplied by the Authority free of charge.

I sent up 22 swabs during the year, and 5 carriers were isolated till they were free from infection.

SCARLET FEVER was responsible for 43 notifications (27 in 1924), to which every month contributed its quota. There was again no epidemic, but 12 scattered cases occurred at Bovey—mostly among school children—between January and October: eleven were reported from Moreton and its neighbourhood—spread over several months. Besides these, 5 occurred at Heathfield (Feb. to Oct.); 3 at

Dawlish West (Sept. and Nov.); 2 at Ilsington (July); and Lustleigh (Sept.), while isolated attacks occurred at Abbotskerswell, Broadhempston, Bickington, Chudleigh Knighton, North Bovey, Kingsteignton, Ogwell and Denbury.

Twenty-five were removed to hospital (20 to Newton, 4 to Exeter, 1 to Paignton), while the remainder were efficiently isolated at home. Of the total number, 1 was under 1 year old; 2 between 2 and 3 years; 3 between 3 and 4 years; 4 between 4 and 5 years; 21 between 5 and 10 years; 6 between 10 and 15 years; 4 between 15 and 20 years; and 2 between 20 and 35 years. There was one fatality in a boy of 6 years.

I am not of opinion that overcrowding had any effect on the incidence of disease: there were, however, 3 cases in one house in an isolated cottage about a mile from Moreton: 2 each at Ilsington, Lustleigh, Moreton and Dawlish West. All these, except in one instance, were simultaneous.

It is of interest that one of the above cases—a girl of 15—developed typhoid fever 10 days after removal to hospital, and went through a regular course of both diseases. Shell fish, in the shape of winkles, seemed at least to furnish a cause.

No use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests in this area.

SMALL POX.—No primary or revaccinations were performed by the M.O.H. in 1925.

TYPHOID FEVER—Three cases: one each at Bishops-teignton in March, Kingsteignton in October, and Abbotskerswell in November. Two were in males, age 20 and 28: one in a female of 48. I could discover no apparent source of disease in any of these isolated attacks: all were removed to the Newton Hospital and made good recoveries.

Besides these a former resident died of this affection in a County Mental Asylum.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM was again limited to one attack. This baby remained at home and recovered completely.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—Two cases: one in a woman of 50, at Moreton, ended fatally after four days' illness, while the other referred to a young adult male (age 21) at Teign Village. The latter was treated in Hospital, and ultimately recovered. As far as I could ascertain, there was no association between these and previous cases of the disease.

PNEUMONIA produced 20 notifications: of these 1 was

between 2 and 3 years; 2 between 5 and 10 years; 1 between 15 and 20 years; 5 between 20 and 35 years; 4 between 35 and 45 years; 2 between 45 and 65 years; and 5 over the latter age. All were treated at home under reasonable conditions of nursing and isolation. There were among them 7 fatalities: three of these took place at Lustleigh in April, where two members of one family, and a friend who came in to help the nursing (there were two trained nurses besides) succumbed. The type of disease concerned in this little outbreak seemed to be of a virulent character.

ERYSIPELAS.—Seven attacks were reported: one in a child under 10; 1 between 20 and 35; 1 between 35 and 45; and 4 over 65. There were no deaths.

INFLUENZA.—Though not so virulent as in the previous year, was still responsible for 9 deaths, 6 of which were registered in the first four months. Lustleigh (3) and Bishopsteignton (2) suffered the highest mortality.

Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ... 43	25	1
Diphtheria ... 2	1	1
Enteric Fever ... 3	3	—
Pneumonia ... 20	—	7
Erysipelas ... 7	—	—
E. Lethargica .. 2	1	1
Opth. Neonatorum ... 1	—	—

Ages of the fatal cases—Scarlet Fever, 6; Diphtheria, 5; E. Lethargica, 50; Pneumonia: 1 between 20 and 35; 2 between 35 and 45; 1 between 5 and 65; and 3 over 65.

PHTHISIS.—17 deaths (7 in males and 10 in females, as in the previous year; this gives a rate of .83 per 1,000, while the decennial average works out at .94.

Bovey, Ilsington and Kingsteignton were credited with 3 fatalities each; while other parishes contributed single deaths.

Of the 23 cases notified, 6 have died and 2 others left the District. Six have had Sanatorium treatment. Influenza was said to be the starting point in two instances; bronchitis and pleurisy in one each. Sanitary conditions generally were very fair: in one case, however, there was much dampness, which has been attended to. Twelve had separate bedrooms and nearly all the others shared a room with one other occupant.

Other forms of tubercular disease caused 6 deaths;

while there were seven notifications. Of these, three referred to Bronchial and Cervical Glands; two to the Meninges; one to the Kidneys; and one to the Peritoneum. Three have since died, and one has left the District.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	—
20	2	5	1	—	1	1	—	—
25	4	5	—	1	2	3	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
55	3	—	—	—	2	2	—	1
65 & over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	13	2	5	7	10	2	4

Four out of 18 Tubercular deaths registered in the District referred to unnotified persons, but notification is on the whole very fairly carried out.

Two of these were doubtful cases, and the diagnosis was only made at the last minute; I was consulted as to one of them. In the other two the doctors concerned thought that they had already been notified.

At the end of 1925 there were about 190 Tubercular Patients living in the District, of whom 160 were Pulmonary cases.

Disinfection of rooms and bedding is carried out after death or removal.

I visit all cases—also those previously notified once a year—and keep a record of their condition and movements. As far as I know there are no “open” Tuberculous Employees in the milk trade, and no action has therefore been taken.

No cases have been compulsorily removed to Hospital.

CANCER was responsible for 41 deaths—a large increase as compared with 28 in the previous year. Chudleigh, Ilsington, North Bovey (4 each), Abbotskerswell, Bovey, Dawlish West, Ideford, Kingsteignton, Moreton (3 each), afforded the greatest mortality.

This is equal to a rate of 2.0 per 1,000, while the decennial average worked out at 1.35.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—

The combined Hospital at Newton serves 22 Rural Parishes: patients from the remaining six are sent to the Exeter Sana-

torium at Whipton. Each of these institutions has a special ambulance. There is a steam disinfectant at the Newton Hospital for bedding: rooms are sprayed.

Disinfectant is supplied by the Authority free of cost: for this there is a depot in all the principal towns and villages.

During the year 25 cases (20 Scarlet Fever, 3 Typhoid Fever, 1 each (Diphtheria and E. Lethargica) were sent to Newton; 4 (Scarlet Fever) to Exeter, and 1 (Scarlet Fever) to Paignton.

Provision for Small Pox—including an ambulance—has been made by the County Council.

COTTAGE HOSPITALS (Voluntary) for general diseases exist at Moreton (8 beds) and Bovey Tracey (6 beds). Besides these, hospital accommodation is available in the neighbouring towns of Newton Abbot, Teignmouth, Dawlish and Ashburton.

There is an ambulance in connection with the St. John Ambulance Division at Newton.

The Devon County Council has a Sanatorium for Tubercular Patients at Hawkmoor, Bovey Tracey.

There are District Nurses in several of the larger parishes, and County Council Health Visitors are available in certain parts of the District. No subsidy is given by the Authority, either to these or to the 12 practising Midwives, but the Guardians contribute to both Cottage Hospitals, and also to the various Nursing Associations.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—

During the past year I visited 278 (ten are milkshops only), controlling 2,568 cows: 169 are wholesalers. As usual, the great majority are well looked after as regards cleanliness of shippens and limewashing, though I had to serve a few notices. There are still, however, far too many with the old rubble paving, which cannot be properly washed out, though the process of concreting these is gradually proceeding. The number of wholesalers continues to grow with the increasing use of motor vehicles for picking up and prompt delivery of the cans in the adjacent towns: and even the most distant parts of the District are now quite accessible in this respect. The drainage of a dairy farm at Kingskerswell—of which I had to complain in my last report—has been a source of offence at times; but though the sewage question of the village has been practically settled, it appears that this particular trade effluent cannot be dealt with at the outfall works, but must be treated efficiently before admission to the sewer. Now that the position is known there is no reason for prolonging the nuisance.

No action has been taken as regards tuberculous cattle or milk.

No licenses have been granted for the sale of higher grades of milk.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.—Thirty-three licensed are constantly visited, both by myself and the Sanitary Inspectors. In consequence of the increased work entailed by meat inspection, the Council have given an increase of £125 for travelling and extra duties to each of the Sanitary Inspectors. It is, of course, still only possible to inspect a proportion of the animals killed, either on regular slaughtering days or when special notice is sent in, but a good deal of work has been accomplished in this direction, as the Sanitary Inspectors' report shows.

Besides this, I have visited and registered 76 places where meat in one form or another is sold. I found on the whole little to take exception to, and chief defects were want of some permanent ventilation, such as that provided by a pane of perforated zinc, and the absence of a covered sanitary bin for refuse. I personally explained to the occupier what I considered to be necessary, and this, if not done, will be followed up by a notice in the usual way.

	1920.	Jan. 1925.	Dec. 1925.
Registered	... 4	3	—
Licensed	... 24	28	33
	—	—	—
Total	... 28	31	33

There are no public slaughterhouses.

BAKEHOUSES have also come under inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors and myself: I have again had occasion to report adversely on one at Kingsteignton.

FOODS AND DRUGS ACT is administered by the police, and the following samples were taken in the District—25 in all:

Baking Powder	... 1	Rice	... 5
Butter	... 4	Sago	... 1
Cocoa	... 2	Tapioca	... 1
Milk (New)	... 7	Tea	... 2
Pepper	... 2		

All were found to be genuine.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.—There is room for much improvement in this matter, and from time to time I get complaints from people living near the dumps, especially in the more populous places—chiefly on account of the flies and rats which breed there. At the present time, house refuse

is collected twice a week at Bovey and Chudleigh, and once a week at Abbotskerswell, Bishopsteignton, Dawlish West, Kingskerswell, Kingsteignton, and Moreton. Requests have been received from other places—notably Lustleigh and Ipplepen—for a collection there. This question has, however, been under consideration, and a Committee of the Council appointed to prepare a scheme. In these days of easy motor transport it ought not to be difficult to arrange for one or more central depots for the destruction of waste material without nuisance.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—A great deal of building activity is manifesting itself in various parts of the District, notably at Kingsteignton, where 89 houses were erected in 1925; twenty-four of these were workmen's cottages, and the builder obtained a subsidy of £100 on each, on condition of their being let for five years at 9s. 6d. per week.

The first instalment of 12 houses for Messrs. Candy's employees at Heathfield has been finished, and another 12 commenced: these are excellent both as to site and dwelling.

At Chudleigh the Council have bought the land and started to build 20 cottages.

Tenders have been received for 8 at Hennock and 8 at Liverton. At Ogwell the land for 6 has been bought and negotiations for land for housing purposes at Abbotskerswell, Bovey and Coombe have been carried on.

On the whole 218 dwellings were put up during the year, as compared with 122 in 1924.

The five years, 1921-1925, produced 587 new houses; counting 4 persons per house—the average rate for the district—this would provide for 2,348 persons. In the same period the population increased by 950, so that we have made up leeway (allowing for eight condemned cottages) to the extent of housing for 1,366. There is, however, still much to be done: overcrowding still exists and many old buildings are only fit to be scrapped, and will have to be replaced. It must also be remembered that the rent even of a subsidized house, represents, in many cases, a larger proportion of the weekly earnings than was paid by the same class of tenant for the same type of house before the war: and is practically out of the reach of an agricultural labourer. It is, therefore, desirable to keep in order as many of the older type of dwellings as possible, which can still be let at a lower rent. Numbers of them are solidly built, reasonably fit for habitation, and only want attention from time to time to keep them as going concerns. It is no doubt possible in some cases to

add a third bedroom—a necessity where there is a family. Why not a subsidy for this also in the case of a poor owner? It seems to me, under present conditions, it is material, not only to build anew, but to make the most of what we already possess. And if a poor and inconvenient cottage can be converted into a good one by a comparatively small outlay, the owner should be encouraged and even helped to do so.

Four hundred and twenty houses were put in order during the years 1921-1925.

House to house Inspections were made by Mr. Luxton and myself at Bickington, Bovey Tracey, Ilsington and Teigngrace, and much work has been carried out.

One overcrowding was reported: more, of course, are to be found, and when sufficient accommodation is provided they can be dealt with.

Two cottages—one at Bovey and one at Ogwell—were reported as unfit for habitation and condemned.

Number of new houses erected during the year	...	218
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))		—
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:		
(i) By the Local Authority		Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons. Subsidies	...	76

1.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)		—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925		99
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation		43

2.—Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers		46
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	—
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	26
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

WATER SUPPLIES.—There are now no less than 20 public water supplies in the District, brought in by gravitation, and two others which, though private in the sense of ownership, serve small villages. These are all constant.

The only considerable villages yet to be dealt with are Broadhempston, Combe and Stoke: the Shaldon main passes through the two latter, but though the water is not as yet available, it is only a matter of time. Bickington, Coffinswell, North Bovey, and Trusham would greatly benefit by supplies, but these promise to be expensive in comparison with the resources of these small villages.

SEWERAGE AND RIVER POLLUTION.—The chief water courses in the district are the River Teign and its tributaries, on or near the banks of which lie most of the larger centres of population. Abbotskerswell, Bovey Tracey, Hennock (3 systems), Ideford, Ipplepen, Kingsteignton and Moreton have septic tanks, with land irrigation: Bishops-

teignton and Kingskerswell are on the eve of installing modern outfall works. Chudleigh, alone, of the towns of over 1,000 inhabitants, will then be without any effective treatment of sewage, which ultimately reaches the river. Of the smaller places, Combe and Stoke discharge what drainage there is into the streams on which these villages lie, and I have had complaints as to the latter. Broadhempston, Lustleigh and North Bovey are dealt with by field irrigation, while Dawlish West has an exit into tidal waters. A few slop water drains discharge into a small brook at Trusham.

In such a district as this, a certain amount of drainage must of necessity reach the streams: but here it is inconsiderable in proportion to the volume of water in these latter, and except in one or two instances, I have had no complaints.

SCHOOLS.—Generally speaking, the sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools in the District is satisfactory, and 23 are served by the various public water supplies. Bickington and Broadhempston, however, depend on rain water, while Coombe, Stoke and Trusham want attention in this respect.

PUBLIC WORK CARRIED OUT OR IN CONTEMPLATION IN 1925.

WATER SUPPLIES.

BISHOPSTEIGNTON.—Main taken to new building site. 2in. main is to be replaced by 3in. main in Cockhaven Street.

BOVEY TRACEY.—Enquiry held to obtain a loan for scraping the main delivery pipes from Trendlebeer Reservoir.

CHUDLEIGH.—New mains have been laid through Culver Street and Fore Street.

IPPLEPEN.—Main extended to Barton House Cross.

KINGSKERSWELL.—Main extended to Whilborough.

KINGSTEIGNTON.—Main extended to various new building sites.

MORETON.—Collecting pipes on Mardon Down cleaned and extended.

SEWERAGE.

ABBOTSKERSWELL.—New filter beds provided at outfall.

BISHOPSTEIGNTON.—Enquiry held to obtain loan for comprehensive scheme—including outfall works.

BOVEY TRACEY.—New sewers and outfall tank for Messrs. Candy's Works at Heathfield.

BROADHEMPSTON.—A further portion of the old stone sewer has been replaced by piping.

CHUDLEIGH.—Parts of old stone sewer replaced by piping. New sewer to be laid through old Exeter Street.

COCKINGTON.—Sewage scheme under consideration for Shiphay, Collaton.

IDEFORD.—Sewer extended to Almshouses and Smithy.

ILSINGTON.—Sewage scheme for Liverton under discussion. Plans prepared for new sewer and outfall tank at South Knighton.

KINGSKERSWELL.—Comprehensive scheme with outfall works being prepared to take drainage of the whole village, with extension to Halfway Inn.

KINGSTEIGNTON.—Extensions to various building sites.

WIDECOMBE.—Sewerage scheme, with outfall tank, for Widecombe village under consideration

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Act, 1907.

Model Dairy Regulations (1890 Order).

Model Regulations for Slaughterhouses.

Model Regulations as to Offensive Trades.

Model Building Bye-laws—Intermediate Series.

Parts of Public Health Act, 1925.

SANITARY CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURE.

ABBOTSKERSWELL.—Population (estimated), 441 ;
acreage, 1,486.

Rateable value, £5,666.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £195.

Outdoor relief in 1925, £237 5s. 8d.

The public water supply is that of Torquay and Newton and is derived from the Wolborough Hill reservoir at Newton, but there is also a small tank at Aller, which serves that hamlet; nearly all the houses have now taken in the water.

The village is now practically all sewered—except five dwellings on the further side of the stream: there are settling tanks, with filter beds, at the outfall, which is a quarter mile distant.

There are many water closets and a few pail privies: the former are, I believe, all flushed.

House refuse is removed quarterly.

HOUSING.—It is difficult to say how far there is a shortage, since here (as in other villages near Newton) there are many who work elsewhere. It is, however, proposed to provide more accommodation.

Many of the cottages are old, but have been kept in fairly good condition: repairs are still proceeding with regard to them.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

This is principally sewerage, which has been progressing from year to year—all taken out of rate—to its present satisfactory position. This refers not only to new building sites, but also to older parts of the village.

Seven houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 15.8 per 1,000.

BICKINGTON.—Population, 223; acreage, 1,403.

Rateable value, £2,244.

Outdoor relief in 1925, £185 10s. 6d.

A purely rural and scattered village, which is dependent on wells in the shale for water. This is apt to run short in dry seasons, especially in the higher part of the village. At present the solution of the question appears difficult.

There are no sewers, and closets are, as a rule, on the dry system.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

A House to House Inspection was made during the past year, but a certain proportion of the work yet remains to be done; cottages are mostly of old type—cob and thatch. I have not had any complaint of shortage here. Agriculture is the only industry.

Lee Well, which is resorted to by the tenants of several

houses—some at a considerable distance—has been closed in and a pump provided by the Authority.

Two houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 14.0 per 1,000.

BISHOPSTEIGNTON.—Population, 1,086; acreage, 4,449

Rateable value, £13,111.

Outdoor Relief in 1925, £161 3s. 1d.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £99 3s. 4d.

The village lies in a sheltered and attractive position on the southern slope of the Haldon Hills, by which it is protected from the north and east. The main part of the water supply is derived from two deep springs under the green sand.

There are two covered reservoirs, containing about 120,000 gallons: there is a third spring, with small reservoir, but this is inconsiderable.

This is supplemented when necessary from the Teignmouth main: during the last year 371,000 gallons were taken from that source. Practically all houses in the village have the public supply.

SEWERAGE.—Water closets are general and nearly all of them are flushed: the sewers are all piped, except a small portion below the church. There are two main outfalls, one irrigating a field adjacent to the vicarage, and the other in West Town Meadow. For a long time past—partly owing to an increasing number of houses—both these outfalls have given rise to nuisance: the Council therefore instructed Mr. F. W. Stanton to prepare a comprehensive scheme, bringing all the sewage to one point, with the provision of proper treatment: an enquiry has recently been held by the Ministry of Health to sanction a loan for £5,600. The question should now be settled for many years to come.

Luton, a village of about 20 houses, in an outlying part of the parish, has a good and abundant water supply, piped down from a Haldon spring: there is a reservoir containing about 5,000 gallons at a high level. The water is distributed by means of stand pipes.

Closets are on the dry system, and there are no sewers.

The hamlet of **Ashwell** is supplied with water from an excellent spring.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

House to House Inspection was made by Mr. Luxton in 1921, and a considerable amount of work resulted, especially with regard to the older type of cottage. There

are no special industries, and from its position the parish is largely residential: it also attracts a certain number of visitors. Housing is fair and for the present the demand has been met.

Additional springs have been taken into the Donny Shute Reservoir; also drainage above the Hollowcombe Reservoir has augmented that supply. The village is now nearly self-supporting in this respect.

Various sewer extensions to new building sites have been made, and the remaining old stone sewer replaced by pipe.

The reservoir at Luton and intake pipes have been cleared.

The spring at Ashwell was provided with a new pump.

Thirty-seven houses have been built (eight Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 11.8 per 1,000.

BOVEY TRACEY.—Population, 2,840; acreage, 7,567.

Rateable value, £16,052.

Outdoor Relief in 1925, £291 16s. 6d.

Balance of loans outstanding: water supply, £11,645 15s.; sewerage, £2,810 16s. 8d.; total, £14,456 11s. 8d.

The older part of the town lies on the slope of a hill, with a south-westerly aspect. Of recent years, however, considerable expansion has taken place, chiefly in the Teign Valley, and the suburb of Brimley has grown up.

Many of the inhabitants are employed in working the clay, and there are two large potteries in the parish.

The neighbourhood, being attractive, is a residential one, and caters for a large number of summer visitors.

The geological formation varies from granite on the higher elevations to shales, and eventually the clays and alluvium of the old lake bed.

Water supply is derived from granite springs above and around Yarner, and is soft and pure. In times of scarcity this may be supplemented from the pottery leat to the capacity of a 4-inch pipe: this latter supply is chlorinated before use. There is a storage reservoir on Trendlebeer Down—about 3 miles distant—of 3,000,000 gallons: the home reservoir, above the church, will hold about 250,000 gallons. The main delivery pipe has of late, owing to corrosion, and consequent lessening calibre, demanded attention. An enquiry was recently held by the M.O.H. to sanction a loan for scraping purposes.

The sewerage is entirely modern, with septic tanks and intermittent land irrigation: it continues to work well.

Water closets are general and are, I believe, all flushed. House refuse is removed weekly.

Brookfield and Wreyland.—These villages, while in the Parish of Bovey, are close to Lustleigh Station, and more nearly connected with that Parish. They are supplied with water by a main from the Trendlebeer Reservoir: the sewers form part of the Lustleigh system and there are two branches, one of which can be flushed from the river.

Water closets are general and are well flushed.

At **Heathfield**, also in this Parish, the long row of Cottages (32 in number) is supplied from the Torquay main. Closets are all flushed, and there is a private sewer, with outfall, in an adjacent meadow.

Messrs. Candy's are building what amounts to a new village—of admirable cottages—for their employees: these are also supplied from the Torquay mains, and a new septic tank and outfall has been recently constructed to take the drainage from these and also from the Pottery.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Besides the above, which is a private enterprise, both water main and sewers have been extended to new building sites, the most recent of which is at Combe Cross, in an easterly direction.

A House to House Inspection has been begun by Mr. Gray: most of the cottages are in fairly good condition, but there is a great demand for houses, and, till this has been overtaken, much overcrowding will exist.

Sixty-two houses have been built (eight Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 12.9 per 1,000.

BROADHEMPSTON.—Population, 416; acreage, 2,200;

Rateable value, £4,253.

Outdoor Relief in 1925, £51 17s.

Water supply is derived from wells, mostly in the shale, and cannot be called satisfactory, especially as in dry seasons shortage is complained of.

There is one main sewer, which runs down through the village: a great proportion of this is piped, and it has an outfall in an orchard.

Water closets are numerous, but in the absence of a public supply, scarcely any of them are flushed: there are also a few pail privies.

The Hamlet of **Forder Green** is also supplied by wells.

This is a purely rural and agricultural village, with a decreasing population.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

The sewer has been extended to the Smithy Cottages: a portion of old stone sewer at the bottom of Fore Street has been replaced by piping.

A House to House Inspection was carried out by Mr. Luxton in 1923, and various improvements effected. The cottages are mostly of old type, but there is nothing here to attract building, and, as far as I know, little overcrowding or demand for houses exists.

Two new houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 17.8 per 1,000.

BUCKLAND.—Population, 68; acreage, 1,493.

Rateable value, £798.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—Nil.

This is a small moorland parish, adjoining that of Widecombe: the waters are, therefore, of granite type, and are pure and abundant.

Closets are on the dry system, and there are no sewers.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

I made a House to House Inspection of the few cottages in this Parish—built of granite and thatch—and a few minor defects were found. There is no demand for houses in this small and purely agricultural Parish.

No new houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 20.0 per 1,000.

CHUDLEIGH.—Population, 1,910; acreage, 6,125.

Rateable value, £11,114.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£534 6s. 1d.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £294.

This compact little town lies on the western slope of the Haldon Hills, at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level.

WATER SUPPLY is derived from the Kennel Spring, about two miles distant, and 400 feet O.D. This is of the excellent quality yielded by the Haldon greensand, or the limestone which underlies it. The normal flow is at the rate of 70,000 gallons a day, of which the town is entitled to 40,000 free. There is a reservoir containing 70,000 gallons near the source.

SEWERAGE.—Water closets are general, and I believe all are now flushed. The sewers are mostly piped: there are two main outfalls, which irrigate meadows, but no settling tanks. Two owners of the land below have the rights on the western outfall (far the largest) for purposes of field

irrigation: when neither are using it the affluent goes down the goyal and I have had occasional complaints of smell, which have been met by clearing out the stream bed. It is, however, a question which will sooner or later call for attention.

House refuse is removed twice a week.

HOUSING.—The want of good cottages is very acute here: not only is there a shortage as far as numbers go, but many of the present dwellings—especially in Woodway Street—are of very poor type, and have outlived their usefulness.

Many of the tenants are clay workers from the Teign Valley, or employed on the quarries at Trusham, and have some distance to go. For these the real remedy is more cottages near the scene of their labour.

The neighbourhood is attractive, and therefore to a large extent residential.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

New water mains have been laid through the Main Street.

Certain portions of old stone sewer have been reconstructed with stoneware socketted piping.

Twenty-two cottages are to be built on a site at the head of Old Exeter Street: the water main and sewer have been extended and the work begun.

Though no regular House to House Inspection has been made here, a certain amount of work—especially with regard to Weaver's Court, in Woodway Street—has been carried out.

Fifteen houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 14.7 per 1,000.

COCKINGTON.—Population, 284; acreage, 1,471.

Rateable value, £5,523.

Outdoor Relief in 1925—10s. 6d.

The village of that name is partly supplied by the Torquay water, and partly from a private source belonging to Mr. Mallock.

There are no sewers and closets are mostly on the dry system.

Edginswell and Shiphay Collaton are both supplied from Torquay: there is a short sewer at the former place, with outfall in meadow. Water closets which exist are flushed, but there are also many privies.

I have had no complaints as to shortage of working-class houses: dairy farming constitutes the main industry.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

This parish is on the borders of Torquay, and, especially at Shiphay, where bungalows and small villas are being rapidly erected, is becoming a favourite residential locality: a comprehensive sewerage scheme for Shiphay has been discussed, but not yet actually commenced.

Twenty-five houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 8.8 per 1,000.

COFFINSWELL AND DACCOMBE.—Population, 159; acreage, 1,152.

Rateable value, £1,898.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—Nil.

There are four public springs—with considerable overflow—two in each of the above villages. The water is abundant, though somewhat hard, owing to the sandstone formation of the locality.

The cottages are mostly—but not all—within a short distance of the water supplies.

There are no sewers, and closets are generally on the dry system.

These villages are agricultural in occupation, and lie in a secluded valley off the main Newton—Torquay Road. There is not much demand for working-class houses, but many of those which exist are of poor type—cob and thatch.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Two of the public Dipping Springs, one opposite the Post Office, and the other at Dacombe, have been enclosed, and Pumps provided—a great improvement.

One new house has been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 9.1 per 1,000.

COOMBE AND HACCOMBE.—Population, 351; acreage, 1,983.

Rateable value, £3,448.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£73 1s. 6d.

This is mainly an agricultural district, though of late some tendency to build bungalows—especially along the river front—has manifested itself.

Water is derived wholly from wells, mostly in shale and sandstone, and for the serious lack of a public supply anything like building activity is being held up. The main to Shaldon passes through the village, but the water is not available, though the Rural District is entitled to 3,000,000 gallons a year, and in 1925 drew on this only to a very small extent.

There are no sewers, and few water closets, which, in the absence of a public supply are, as a rule, hand flushed. What drainage there is goes into the brook, which runs through the village: this—fortunately—has a fairly rapid course, and is only a short distance above tidal waters. Yet in dry summers nuisance arises. When, therefore, the long awaited water supply matures, and, in consequence, more houses arise, this question will have to be faced.

HOUSING.—Many of the cottages are of old type—cob and thatch: they have, however, been kept in fairly good order, but complaints of shortage have been received.

No public work of importance has been carried out during the last five years. Four houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 12.1 per 1,000.

DAWLISH WEST.—Population, 918; acreage, 3,908.

Rateable value, £11,205.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£164 4s. 6d.

Balance of loan outstanding on water supply, £1,353 6d. 8d.

This scattered parish lies largely between the Haldon Hills and Estuary of the Exe, on the sandstone formation of that locality. The sea and river neighbourhood—especially Mount Pleasant and the Warren—is becoming increasingly residential, and attracts many summer visitors. Bungalows and small villas are springing up in all directions.

Market gardening, and to some extent river occupations—fishing and cockle gathering—are the main industries.

The population is broken up into several villages and hamlets: those on the river front—**Cofton**, **Middlewood**, **Westwood** and **Mount Pleasant**—obtain their water from springs at Duck Aller, whence it is pumped by an oil engine to a reservoir containing 70,000 gallons on the top of Easdon Hill, and distributed by a main running along the river. The water is soft, pure and abundant, and all houses within reach are connected.

The scattered hamlet of **Dawlish Water** lies further inland: wells and springs constitute the water supply, which in a sandstone district is generally abundant.

The mains of the Dawlish Urban District run through this valley, but only one or two houses are supplied from this source.

The sewers from the ravine hamlets of Westwood and Middlewood are discharged into separate tanks in the meadows below, which are cleaned out periodically: the Cofton sewer has an outlet into tidal waters. At Mount

Pleasant—a residential area—cesspits are the rule: there are no sewers here or at Dawlish Water.

Many bungalows have been built on the Warren: those at the Exmouth end—from 30 to 40—depend on rain water: others, below Mount Pleasant, are connected with the public mains.

Most of them have water closets, and cesspits in the sand.

Water closets in this parish are practically all flushed.

There are a certain number of old houses at Cofton, Middlewood, Westwoods and Dawlish Water: these, however, have had a good deal of attention: two or three have been rebuilt, and others put in order.

Any demand for new houses is more on account of residential qualifications of the locality than for those employed in local industry.

Refuse is collected once a week.

Work done in the Past Five Years:

Both water main and sewers have been extended to the building site at Cofton, and the former to the Mount Pleasant site.

Sixty-three houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 9.5 per 1,000.

DENBURY AND TORBRYAN.—Population, 451; acreage, 3,002.

Rateable value, £4,667.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£199 17s.

A purely rural and agricultural Parish, with a stationary if not declining population.

The water supply of the former village is derived from two adjacent springs on the Beacon: there are two reservoirs containing 10,000 and 21,000 gallons respectively. From these it is distributed by standpipes, only two or three houses being directly connected with the main.

There are two main sewers, which unite to form a common outfall: this discharges below the village into a fissure in the limestone—the main geological feature of the locality.

Water closets are general, but few are flushed, as there is not sufficient water for the purpose.

Torbrian has a good and abundant water supply, derived from an adjacent limestone spring, which is distributed by means of standpipes.

Closets are on the dry system, and there is no sewer.

HOUSING.—The cottages are generally small, but

fairly well built of stone, with slate roofs. There is some little demand in this respect here.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

A House to House Inspection was made by Mr. Luxton in 1921, and a good deal of renovation work resulted.

One new house has been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 11.6 per 1,000.

HENNOCK.—Population, 950; acreage, 3,299.

Rateable value, £5,702.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£231 2s.

Balance of loan outstanding (Chudleigh Knighton and Hennock water supplies), £1,384 6s. 8d.

The village of that name occupies an isolated and elevated (700ft. O.D.) position on a granite formation. The water supply is derived mainly from a spring in the vicarage garden, with a reservoir of 5,000 gallons, whence it is distributed by standpipes.

Several cottages are accommodated by another spring, with a small collecting tank—about 200 yards from the main part of the village. Both these waters are pure and abundant.

There are two sewers, with separate septic tanks and outfalls in orchards below the houses, which are now all linked up with this system. The water closets are all flushed but there are also many pail privies.

The cottages are mostly of the old type, and cramped in accommodation: the tenants generally work in the Teign Valley Quarries, or at Hyner Mine. More dwellings are to be built in the near future.

Teign Village lies on the slope of the hill below, and consists of 48 cottages, occupied by quarrymen. These are modern and built of concrete blocks: there is a demand for more, and this is under consideration by the Quarry Company.

Water supply is derived from a spring above the village: there is an open reservoir, containing about 22,000 gallons, and the water is pure, soft and abundant.

The sewerage is treated in septic tanks, with a mechanical filter, in a field below.

Water closets are universal, and all are flushed.

Chudleigh Knighton lies in the Teign Valley on a sub-soil of gravel and clay. The inhabitants are mostly employed at Heathfield Potteries, or otherwise in the clay industry. Housing in this village is fair and many of the cottages are of brick and in good order; more are contemplated.

The water is that of Torquay, and there is a reservoir at Dunleigh which contains about 12,000 gallons. Practically all the houses have the public supply, and closets which exist are flushed: there are also some pail privies.

There is a sewer, with septic tank and outfall, in a meadow below the village.

Work done in the Last Five Years

Hennock.—Public water supply, with reservoir, provided (loan obtained); new sewer, with outfall tank and irrigation channels.

Chudleigh Knighton.—Outfall sewer extended and septic tanks constructed.

Sixteen new houses were built (8 Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 13.9 per 1,000.

IDEFORD.—Population, 268; acreage, 1,440.

Rateable value, £1,885.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£17 1s.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £226.

An isolated and somewhat elevated village (300ft. O.D.) on the western slopes of Haldon: an agricultural locality, though some of the inhabitants go considerable distances to work elsewhere. The cottages are mainly of old type, but with three or four exceptions are in fair order.

The water supply is derived from a spring on Haldon, and there is a high level reservoir, which contains 10,000 gallons: it is distributed by means of standpipes.

About three-parts of the village is sewered, with septic tank and outfall in a meadow. Closets are mostly on the dry system; a few are flushed, but there is insufficient water for this to be the general rule.

The hamlet of **Olchard**—about a mile distant—is supplied from a limestone spring, from which the water is pumped to a small tank of 4,000 gallons, and thence distributed to the various houses. In dry summers there is a liability of shortage, principally because a large part of the flow has to be used for driving the pumping wheel.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Sewerage scheme, with septic tanks and outfall, has been provided (out of rate) for the accommodation of a large proportion of the village.

Under the Housing Act the necessary work in connection with five cottages was executed by the Authority, and the cost recovered from the owner (1921).

Two new houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 15.7 per 1,000.

ILSINGTON.—Population, 1,158; acreage, 7,843.

Rateable value, £7,971.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£222 11s.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £5,473.

This parish has a large area, with a scattered population, and contains several villages and hamlets. Like that of Hennock, on the opposite side of the Teign Valley, it lies partly on granite uplands, and partly on the low-lying clay formation of the lake bed.

The higher part is largely residential and attracts many summer visitors: the rest is in the main agricultural, but some of the clay workers live at Liverton.

The older cottages are generally granite, with thatched roofs: they have been, as a rule, fairly well kept up. There is some demand for working class dwellings in the parish. Villas and bungalows are constantly being erected in the neighbourhood of Haytor.

There is a comprehensive water scheme, including a reservoir on Haytor Down, which collects the surrounding springs. Thence the water, which is of the usual granite type is piped to the villages of **Haytor, Ilsington, Liverton**, and the hamlets of **Higher Brimley, Cold East, Halford, Pinchaford and Blackpool**; this means many miles of piping.

Sigford, another hamlet, has an excellent private supply, brought in by piping from a small reservoir, while the village of **South Knighton** depends partly on wells, and partly on a public spring, with small storage tanks. On account of several hand-flushed closets, and a sewer which in dry weather wants flushing, this is not altogether satisfactory, but no solution of the question has yet been found.

Mountsland, a hamlet on the extreme west of the parish, is supplied by a spring, also piped to the houses.

There are two short sewers at Liverton and Haytor Village, at which latter place there is a septic tank, with field irrigation of the effluent. The outfall at Liverton is in a field, but the sewerage of this place is at present not very efficient; extensions and better treatment have been for some time past under consideration.

South Knighton sewerage has been complained of and a reconstruction of the old stone sewer with piping, together with septic tank and outfall treatment, are in contemplation.

Closets at Haytor are all flushed: those which exist at Liverton remain to be dealt with. Elsewhere the dry system prevails as a rule.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Ilington water main extended to Brimley, Halford, Cold East and Blackpool (loan obtained for this).

Part of the sewer at South Knighton relaid.

A House to House Inspection was made by Mr. Luxton in 1924: most of the requirements have been carried out and many improvements effected. Some, however, still remain to be dealt with.

Twenty-six houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 13.5 per 1,000.

IPPLEPEN.—Population, 746; acreage, 2,887.

Rateable value, £9,728.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£70 16s.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £1,245 13s. 4d.

This is an upland parish—about 200 feet above sea level—on a shale and limestone formation. Housing is fair, and a good deal of work has from time to time been done in keeping the cottages in repair. There are no special industries, and employment is mainly agricultural: there are a certain number of dairy farms.

Water supply is derived from the Paignton gathering ground at Holne, and presents the usual qualities of a good moorland water: there is a home reservoir on a hill above the village, whence it is distributed to the houses, nearly all of which have the water.

The sewerage is modern, and is all brought to one outfall at a considerable distance from the village: there is a septic tank, with land irrigation of the effluent. Water closets are general, and I believe are all flushed.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

No public work of importance has been carried out.

Thirty new houses were erected (sixteen Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 16.4 per 1,000.

KINGSKERSWELL.—Population, 1,046; acreage, 1,797.

Rateable value, £9,673.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£70 8s. 2d.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £561 12s. 9d.

A large residential village, midway between Newton and Torquay, whose water supply it shares. There is a home reservoir of about 80,000 gallons capacity, on the hill above.

Sewers are piped throughout, with two outfalls, of which the main one has settling tanks, but with the growth

of the village, these are now most unsatisfactory, and have given rise to much complaint. In addition to this, further extensions will be necessary in the immediate future, in view of the rapid developments taking place.

In these circumstances the Council have instructed Mr. F. W. Stanton to prepare a comprehensive scheme, which will link up the two branches of the present system, effect proper outfall treatment, and provide for any necessary extensions. This scheme has been held up by some uncertainty as regards land for disposal of the effluent, but this has now been settled.

Water closets are general, and nearly all are now flushed.

Whilborough, a hamlet about a mile from the village, has at last got its public water supply by the extension of the main from Kingskerswell—a great advance.

The chief industry, besides a small pottery, is dairy farming.

A large number of bungalows and small villas has been put up of recent years: there is a good deal of old property, some of which—as at Dacca Bridge—is not worth preserving. A fair amount of renovation work has, however, been carried out from time to time. A few more working class cottages seem to be still wanted.

House refuse is removed once a week.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Extensions of water mains and sewers to new building sites: water main taken to Whilborough.

Seventy-one new houses have been built (12 Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 15.0 per 1,000.

KINGSTEIGNTON.—Population, 2,370; acreage, 3,972.

Rateable value, £16,025.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£766 os. 10d.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £5,767 10s. 4d.

This large industrial parish lies mainly on the clay formation of the Teign Valley: the town, which is the largest centre of population in the district, except Bovey, continues to make great strides in development.

The brickworks and actual clay mining give employment to several hundred workers, who live in the vicinity. There has been, and is still, a great shortage of cottages: this is, however, being gradually met, and many working class houses are now being built—besides a number of bungalows and small villas.

There are still many dwellings of older type—a few no

longer to be considered "reasonably fit for habitation." A sufficiency of good houses will enable these to be scrapped. A good deal of work has, however, from time to time been carried out in keeping the old property fairly well up to the mark.

Water supply is derived from the Holywell Spring, in Ugbrooke Park, and is of excellent quality, though hard. There is a reservoir near the intake of 85,000 gallons capacity. The flow varies with the season, but the parish is entitled to 58,000 gallons per day at threepence per 1,000 gallons: excess of this at a higher rate.

The sewers are all piped, except a large tile and brick culvert, which extends from the centre of the town to the outfall. It is here joined by the Gestridge sewer, and at the junction is a septic tank, with meadow irrigation of the effluent. Water closets are general, and all in the town are flushed.

House refuse is removed once a week.

Preston, Sandyagte, and Cappa, hamlets in the parish, are supplied with water from the Kingsteignton mains: there are no sewers except a short one at Sandygate. Closets as a rule are on the dry system. Several, however, at Lower Sandygate have been converted and flushed.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

A new water scheme by which the higher levels are supplied direct from the main has been carried out.

Both water mains and sewers have been extended in various directions to serve new building sites, as these are opened up: this means a large amount of work—all done out of rate.

One hundred and forty-four houses have been built (sixteen Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 14.5 per 1,000.

LUSTLEIGH.—Population, 525; acreage, 2,978.

Rateable value, £4,205.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£108 5s. 6d.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supplies, £2,665.

This village lies in an elevated though sheltered valley, about 300 feet above sea level, in a granite area.

The locality is largely residential and caters for summer visitors to a considerable extent: housing is generally fair with one or two exceptions. Water supply is derived from two springs, at North and South Harton, where there are separate reservoirs: the water is pure, soft and fairly abundant. A constant supply was maintained throughout the year.

The sewerage system is combined with that of Brookfield and Wreyland, which are in the Parish of Bovey Tracey: this has an outfall and irrigating gutters in a meadow, but no septic tank.

Water closets are general, and are mostly well flushed.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Augmented water supply obtained from the North Harton spring, with reservoir—loan obtained.

Twelve houses have been built—chiefly bungalows.

Average death rate (10 years), 11.5 per 1,000.

MANATON.—Population, 394; acreage, 6,422.

Rateable value, £2,852.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£1 16s.

A moorland and sparsely populated district, at an elevation of about 800 feet above sea level. A few houses near the Church and School, with the adjacent hamlets of **Freeland and Water**, comprise all the centres of population.

A few bungalows have been built, and the neighbourhood is increasing in popularity as a summer resort. There is, however, some little demand for houses for working people. Existing cottages are granite, with thatched roofs, in fairly good condition.

Private wells and springs constitute the water supply, which is generally pure and abundant, and of the usual granite type.

There is a short sewer crossing the Green, but closets are mostly on the dry system.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

Under the Housing Act, the necessary work in connection with five cottages at Freeland (including a combined drainage system) was executed by the Authority (1922), and the cost recovered from the owner.

Eight houses of the bungalow type were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 12.6 per 1,000.

MORETONHAMPSTEAD.—Population, 1,670; acreage, 7,910.

Rateable value, £10,550.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£406 16s. 10d.

Balance of loans outstanding on sewerage, £1,182 13s. 4d.

This moorland town lies at an elevation of nearly 700 feet above sea level. It is much frequented by visitors and is a considerable agricultural centre: it is also residential to some extent.

Water is derived from various springs at Hill and on Mardon Down—and is soft, pure and fairly abundant, except in dry seasons. The area of intake—beds of granite sand—is considerable. There is an open reservoir which contains about 90,000 gallons.

Water closets are general: those in the town are now all flushed. There are two main sewers, encircling the hill on which the town stands: these unite just below the Station, and the system terminates in a septic tank, with land irrigation at Wray—about a mile lower down.

Housing has received attention from time to time, and though, generally speaking, fair, there are some cottages which are structurally incapable of improvement, especially in Courts, and the only course is to condemn them when the pressure is relieved by erection of more working class dwellings. Some of the new Council houses, which occupy a very exposed position, have shown considerable dampness: the weather sides of these were rendered with cement.

The hamlet of **Doccombe**, on the Exeter road, about 750 feet above sea level, is supplied with water by one spring and several wells, generally of fair quality.

House refuse is removed once a week.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

New concrete bottom put in the reservoir.

Water main and sewers extended to new building sites.

Fresh springs have been taken in from the Hill source.

Twenty-four new houses have been built (16 Council).

Average death rate (10 years), 15.8 per 1,000.

NORTH BOVEY.—Population, 350; acreage, 5,589.

Rateable value, £2,786.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£41 19s.

This village is on the borders of the moor, and like the whole of the Moreton Sub-registration District (which includes Moreton, Manaton, North Bovey and Lustleigh) lies on a granite formation at a considerable elevation.

The Parish contains a large area of uncultivated moorland; agriculture is the only occupation.

Housing is satisfactory, and the cottages are generally kept in good order. Strictly local needs seem to be fairly provided for, but two or three more would, I think, find tenants.

The village depends for its water supply on wells—both public (on the Green) and private. A good spring water supply, brought in by gravitation, would be a great benefit to this otherwise almost model village.

There is a sewer, which serves most of the houses,

with outfall in a field below: in the absence of water for flushing purposes, however, pail privies are in general use.

No work of public importance has been carried out during the last five years.

No houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 11.5 per 1,000.

OCWELL.—Population, 247; acreage, 2,089.

Rateable value, £2,841.

Outdoor relief in 1925.—£33 5s.

Balance of loan outstanding on the water supply, £491 18s.

A small village near Newton: some of the inhabitants go to work in that town. More cottages are in demand, and will be built. Most of the houses are of old type, but, with one or two exceptions, are in fair order.

Water supply is that of Torquay, which is taken from the Abbotskerswell main, and delivered into a reservoir containing about 70,000 gallons: thence it is distributed in the village by standpipes.

Closet accommodation is generally of the privy type, and there are no sewers.

No public work of importance has been carried out during the last five years.

Eight houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 14.9 per 1,000.

STOKE.—Population, 476; acreage, 2,167.

Rateable value, £4,587.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£52 12s. 6d.

A fairly large village in an agricultural district—dairy farming is extensively carried on: the sea coast is to some extent residential, and bungalows and villas are springing up.

There is a good deal of cottage property of the cob and thatch type; most of it is in fairly good order, though there is some demand for more houses.

There are two public and many private wells—in the sandstone—which generally yields a plentiful amount: but with the development of the district, a public water supply is much needed, and building is being held up by its absence.

There is a sewer which discharges into a stream so near houses that there are well-founded complaints of nuisance. Extension of this sewer, with outfall works, is, in my opinion, a necessity.

The hamlet of **Higher Gabwell** is supplied by wells.

Maidencombe, which lies in an isolated position on a

limestone cliff, overlooking the sea, has one public spring and a few private wells, but some of the houses depend largely on rainwater storage—never very satisfactory. The Torquay reservoir is not far distant, but hitherto applications have been refused.

No public work of importance was carried out in the last five years.

Twenty-nine houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 10.3 per 1,000.

TEIGNCRAGE.—Population, 162; acreage, 1,496.

Rateable value, £3,262.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£13 11s.

A small and sparsely populated parish in the Teign Valley. Water supply is derived largely from wells, generally of the moderate or indifferent character yielded by the clay formation of the locality.

The Schools, six cottages, and an adjacent farm have, however, an excellent spring water brought down by gravitation from Staplehill.

There are no sewers, and closets are mostly on the dry system.

Clay work and agriculture are the only industries.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

I made a House to House Inspection (in the autumn of 1925) of the few cottages in the parish: some defects were found and the work is now in hand—they are nearly all on one estate, and generally in fair order.

No houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 11.3 per 1,000.

TRUSHAM.—Population, 157; acreage, 625.

Rateable value, £1,007.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£27 9s.

This is considerably the smallest parish in the district in area, and occupies an isolated position on the western slopes of Haldon, at an elevation of about 300 feet.

Water supply depends on wells in the shale—two of which are public. In dry summers there is often a shortage, but no solution of this question has yet been found: the expense of any scheme—bound to be large—could not be borne by such a small population.

There are no sewers: what drainage there is runs into the brook: but pail privies are the rule.

There are two fairly large stone quarries: the very hard rock, known as diabase, is in great request for road making. Some of the men employed live in the village—the cottages

are mostly of old type, but have been kept in fair order: Want of a water supply stands in the way of building on any scale.

No work of importance has been done in the last five years.

Three new houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 15.6 per 1,000.

WIDECOMBE.—Population, 685; acreage, 10,786.

Rateable value, £6,098.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£68 7s.

This moor parish is the largest in area in the district, and includes a large proportion of uncultivated land. The villages of **Lower Town and Widecombe**, with the hamlets of **Ponsworthy, Poundsgate and Dunston**, are the chief centres of population. They all lie in the valley of the Webburn, a tributary of the Dart, at a considerable elevation above sea level, though protected by the surrounding hills.

This has become a great centre for visitors, and many of the cottages have been bought and converted into summer resorts: also bungalows are being erected.

Other than this, agriculture is the only industry.

Housing is generally fair, though granite dwellings are apt to be damp in this very moist climate.

The granite formation on which the whole parish lies, yields generally pure, soft and abundant waters. Widecombe, Ponsworthy, Lower Town and Higher Dunston have good supplies, brought in by gravitation, of which the latter alone is public.

There are few water closets, and only two short sewers, both at Widecombe: pail and pit privies are general.

Owing to the daily influx of visitors, the drainage from one premises at Widecombe has given rise to increasing nuisance, and the field in which the outfall is situated is too swampy for irrigation purposes. A scheme for dealing with the whole of the village drainage is therefore under consideration. This is, in my opinion, much better than making patchwork efforts, which have to be constantly renewed.

Work done in the Last Five Years:

Widecombe.—A new water supply (private) has been brought into the village from Combe Farm.

The Council Schools and School House have been supplied with water.

Leusden and Lower Town.—New water scheme, with reservoir, privately carried out for supplying four large

houses and the village of Lower Town. The Council Schools were later connected with this.

Nine houses have been built.

Average death rate (10 years), 11.4 per 1,000.

WOODLAND.—Population, 129; acreage, 1,634.

Rateable value, £2,205.

Outdoor Relief in 1925.—£42 19s. 10d.

This is another parish of purely rural and agricultural type, in which there are moreover no centres of population. Water is derived from wells in the shale which, with slate, constitutes the geological formation.

Closets are mostly on the dry system, and there are no sewers.

There is no demand for cottages in the parish: those which exist have been fairly well kept up.

Work done in the Last Five Years.

A House to House Inspection was made by Mr. Luxton in 1923, and many defects have since been remedied.

Two new houses were built.

Average death rate (10 years), 9.1 per 1,000.

MESSRS. A. GRAY AND W. J. LUXTON'S REPORT ON MEAT INSPECTION.

Within this District there are at present 33 Licensed Slaughterhouses, which are scattered over the whole district, and some many miles apart. Owing to the geographical situation of these, it makes the systematic inspection very difficult, and only a proportion of the meat slaughtered can be inspected. In the larger parishes there are three or four slaughterhouses; the majority of the slaughterhouses are used by the individual butchers who are in a small way, and kill possibly no more than one or two beasts per week.

At Kingsteignton and Ipplepen there are two butchers who carry on a wholesale trade and import most of their meat into Newton Abbot and Torquay; frequent visits are made to these, also to the ones in the immediate surroundings of the above mentioned towns.

The greatest difficulty experienced is dealing with any meat, etc., that may have to be condemned. We have disposed of organs or small items by burying, but in the case of carcasses we have had to get a lorry and send the whole to the Kennels (of which there are two in the district). This is rather an expensive matter.

There are a great number of pigs being slaughtered at farms and cottages in the rural parishes, which very much add to the difficulty of inspection; it is a general rule that pigs are slaughtered where they are fed. The owner himself conveys the carcasses to the butcher. These slaughterings are most prevalent on Mondays and Thursdays, which incidentally are the chief days for slaughter by the butchers. Therefore, it is only possible to see a very small proportion of the pigs slaughtered in this way.

The total number of notifications of slaughter for pigs in this manner amounted to 335, and averaged two pigs, which would make a total of 670 pigs slaughtered at farms and cottages.

The total number of visits to the Slaughterhouses during the year was 527.

The number of carcasses inspected during the year, more especially since the Meat Regulations have been in force, was, 2,568, made up as follows:—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	521
Sheep	...	...	...	...	1,444
Calves	...	...	...	...	242
Pigs	...	...	...	...	451

Total	...	...	...	...	2,658
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The amount of meat and organs which was found unfit for human consumption was 7,318½lbs., or nearly two and a half tons; the chief cause for condemnation was tuberculosis. .

There was also occasion for condemning 33 tins of preserved pears and one tin of preserved plums, all of which were blown.

ARTHUR GRAY.

W. J. LUXTON.

Feb. 5th, 1926.

Summary of Surveyors and Sanitary Work, 1925.

PARISHES.	New Buildings.				Water Consumption in Gallons.	New Watermains. In feet.	New Sewers. In feet.	Old Houses.				Drain Tests.	Rooms Fumigated.	Shippins Paved or Drained.	Rooms Linewashed.	Slaughterhouses in Parish.	REMARKS.
	Built.		Plans Passed.					New Drains.	Houses Served.	Closets Flushed.	Earth Closets.						
	Houses.	Additions	Houses.	Additions													
Abbotskerswell	6	3		1	3,680,000					1		6		2		1	The Sewage Outfall Works have been reconstructed and a filter Bed added.
Bickington																	House to House Inspection Carried out during the year
Bishopsteignton	10	4	11	5	371,000	300	102	2	2	3	1	12	7			2	During the year the springs at the Reservoirs have yielded a Good supply and it was only necessary to take water from Teignmouth for two months.
Bovey Tracey	19	5	20	5		3,600		1	1	1		21	28			3	A New 3 inch Main has been laid to Candy's Works and New Cottages at Heathfield.
Broadhempstone	2	2	2	1			500	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	The Old Stone Sewer at Fore St. has been replaced by 12 inch Pipe Sewer.
Buckland-in-the-Moor																	House to House Inspection.
Chudleigh	6		8	1	15,236,000	5,130			1	2		7	15	1		4	A New 4 inch Main has been laid through the Town. New 3 inch Meter fixed on Delivery Main at Reservoir in Feb. 1925.
Cockington	13		8	1								13	3			5	An urgent question in this Parish is the provision of a Sewerage System, or take it to the Torquay Sewers.
Coffinswell																	
Dawlish West	12		5	1	5,312,500							12	7				
Hacombe-with-Coombe...		3												1			A Water supply is urgently required for this Parish as it is holding up Building.
Hennock					2,292,500					1		2					
Ideford							100		2	2		4		2			The Sewer has been extended to take the Blacksmith's practically all the village is now sewered,
Ilsington	9	2	3	3				1	1		9	10	14			2	
Ipplepen	12	1	6	1	4,595,000	1,230						12	1			2	New 3 & 2 inch Water mains have been laid to Newhay X and Barton House, also a 3 inch main carried to Miss Rossiter's New Houses.
Kingskerwell	16	1	14	1	5,934,000	3,402	252	3	3	12		19	1	1		4	A new 3 inch main has been laid to Whilborough from Huxnor Cross.
Kingsteignton	89	31	98	3	24,676,000	360	1,060	1	1	1		89	7	1		2	Extensions of the Sewer and Water mains have been taken to the Building Sites on the Exeter Rd. and Golver Hill.
Lustleigh	3	2		3				2	2	2		5	12				
Manaton	1	2		3								1					
Moretonhampstead	1	1	1	1					4	2		1	7			3	A shortage of water occurs during the summer months and the Council are preparing a scheme to augment the supply to the town.
North Bovey	1		1					3	3	3		3	1				
Ogwell	1		1		1,130,000							3	1	1	2	1	A Water supply again is required for this Parish.
Stokeinteignhead	16	3	11	2						3		16	1				House to House Inspection carried out in the Parish during the year.
Teigngrace											1					2	
Torbrian			2									2	1				
Trusham	1	1						1	2	2		2	1	1		1	
Widcombe-in-the-Moor								1	1	1							A scheme to take the Sewerage from the Locality of the Old Inn and surrounding property.
Woodland																	
	218	61	191	32	63,227,000	14,022	2,014	16	27	37	14	241	108	10	2	33	

Signed, A. GRAY

W. J. LUXTON

Surveyors and Inspectors.

STOYOVNUS		STAMMUE	
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64
65	66	67	68
69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76
77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88
89	90	91	92
93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100

